

FIVE OF THE BEST FROM WANDERERS

WYCOMBE treated the Loakes Park faithful to a feast of attacking football when thrashing five goals past Walthamstow Avenue on Saturday.

Walthamstow, standing third in the Berger Isthmian League Premier Division table, were destroyed by scores from Terry Glynn (2), Steve Long (2) and Bob Dell as Wycombe produced their most complete performance of the season.

By midway through the second half the visitors were a humiliated and spiritless side and it is no exaggeration to say that Wycombe could quite easily have scored eight. I doubt if any team in the league has played as well as Wycombe did in this match.

This was a crucial result for them. After two successive defeats, when scoring goals seemed a major problem, Wycombe struck three times in the first 25 minutes, and with their confidence thus boosted they tore apart Avenue, who had lost only twice before this.

First goal

Wycombe looked positive from the start forcing two early corners. But the real boost came in the ninth minute when Dell scored his first league goal for the club.

It all started with a throw-in on the left by George Borg, to Glynn. Making the most of his skill, Glynn turned and broke free down the left wing. He pulled the ball back and there was Dell placing the ball inside the left post from 15 yards with his right — yes his right! — foot.

Walthamstow had not come to defend and after this goal they moved upfield in an attempt to snatch a quick equaliser. But they were caught out on the break two minutes later by a second goal.

All credit here to the Wycombe skipper Paul Birdseye. Breaking clear from halfway, he moved deep into the penalty area, using his skill to deliver his

By MICHAEL KNOX Wycombe 5, Walthamstow 0

When the time came, he planted the ball accurately over to the far post where Glynn headed home from close range. Just in case he missed it, Steve Long was lurking behind Glynn as the Walthamstow defence was torn to shreds.

Immaculate

But Long did not have to wait too long before scoring himself. A concerted attack with some brilliant inter-passing, resulted in Mick Holifield playing the ball into the middle and Long turning sharply to slip the ball under the diving Jarrett. Three chances, three goals!

Wycombe's immaculate defence was caught out only once, when allowing Phil Hopkins a free header which he sent straight to the re-instated Gary Lester in goal.

The visitors were clearly given a stern lecture at the start of the second half and

tried in vain to claw themselves back into the game. Wycombe's marking and overall work did not allow that.

After chances at both ends Wycombe went ahead with one of the best goals seen at the ground this season. It was a simple four-man move which words alone cannot describe — not mine anyway!

Killer blow

The move started with a brilliant reverse pass into the top right hand corner where Jimmy Jacobs gathered the ball and crossed into the middle. Long played it further left and Glynn sent a header over the stranded Jarrett into the goal.

This was the real killer blow and for the remaining half hour, Wycombe swept all before them as their opponents crumbled. A little more composure in front of

goal would have brought Wanderers a hatful of goals, but they added just one more.

Seven minutes from the end Jacobs lobbed a defender with a pinpoint pass to set Long free on the right. Long narrowed the angle as he approached goal and then unleashed a point blank shot of such ferocity that Jarrett could only palm it into the roof of the net.

Even then Wycombe could have scored again, but nobody was grumbling about the result or the entertainment provided by the winning Wanderers.

WYCOMBE: G. Lester; G. Borg, P. Birdseye, R. Davies, S. Hardwick, R. Dell, S. Long, A. Price, T. Glynn, J. Jacobs, M. Holifield. Sub: G. Toll (not used).

WALTHAMSTOW: A. Jarrett; J. Webberley, B. Locke, A. Hunter, D. Silman (sub: B. Walder 45 mins), R. Jarman, R. Tappin, D. Sedgewick, C. Draper, J. Worrell, P. Hopkin.

Referee: G. Pilsworth (Hitchin).
Half-time: 3-0. **Scorers:** Wycombe — Dell (9 mins), Glynn (11 and 17), Long (25 and 83).
Attendance: 730.